

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY AF:I:JWWALKER:HRB

APPROVED BY AF:CJAMES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:XA, OTRA, OVIP

SUBJECT: FACILITATING US ENTRY FOR AFRICAN DIGNITARIES

1. ONCE AGAIN AN AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTER TRANSITING NEW YORK HAS RECEIVED ROUGH TREATMENT FROM CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS. IN THIS CASE IT IS APPARENT THAT THERE WAS LITTLE, IF ANY, POSSIBILITY FOR US TO HAVE BEEN GIVEN PRIOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE OFFICIAL'S ARRIVAL. HOWEVER, THE INCIDENT HAS NOT HELPED OUR RELATIONS IN AFRICA.

2. AS THE DATES FOR THE SEVENTH EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE UNGA AND FOR THE 30TH UNGA BOTH GROW NEAR THIS EVENT SHOULD REMIND ALL OF THE IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING WASHINGTON INFORMED OF THE TRAVEL PLANS OF AFRICAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. THE BEST WE CAN HOPE FOR IS TO KEEP THESE INCIDENTS TO A MINIMUM AND PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF IMPENDING TRAVEL PLANS IS OUR BEST MEANS OF DOING THIS. INGERSOLL

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